NOTES TO CHAPTER I.

1. The distinction between the right of a nation, to withdraw from a treaty, and the right of a part of a nation to rebel and undertake to set up for itself as another nation, Is one most important to bear In mind in our study of this period. To withdraw from a treaty, although the act may give umbrage to the nation or nations immediately concerned, in nevertheless an unquestionable right of any and every nation; and although a nation may become involved in war through an unnecessary, impolitic, or even unprincipled exercise of this right, its claim to the allegiance of its population remains unimpaired. Any person in that nation who refuses his aid to the government, or gives aid to the enemy, acts treasonably. But the right of revolution can only be said to exist at all when there is a moral justification for it ; and those inhabitants of a district who cannot find that justification for rebellion which their neighbors profess to find are unquestionably bound to oppose the incipient revolution. Hence in a rebellion there are always two parties in the rebellious district,—the loyal people arid the rebels; while in a war between two

nations, it is rare to find any thing but perfect loyalty among the populations on both sides,

It was the latter state of facts that existed for the